

Temperance Column.

TEMPERANCE AND PROSPERITY.

The Church of England Temperance Chronicle, of London, Eng., for Oct. 9, gives the following able article which appeared in the Weekly Times, (a paper which has an enormous circulation among the working classes,) from its well-known leader writer, who adopts the nom de plume, "LITTLEJOHN."

We are accustomed to see it stated, both in the newspapers and at temperance and other meetings, that the people of the united Kingdom spent something like £125,000,000 a year on drink. How many are able to form any adequate conception of what that sum means? Enormous amounts of money, like a hundred million pounds, are beyond the capacity of most people to grasp. It gives them the impression that it is something very large, but beyond that the majority are not able to get. It will help them to form a more exact idea of what £125,000,000 means if I compare it with some other items which they are most likely to be able to comprehend.

Everybody eats bread every day, and consequently the amount of money spent on bread by all the people in these islands is known to be large. It is, however, only half as much as is spent on intoxicating drinks. The consumption of butter, cheese, milk, sugar, tea, coffee, and cocoa is great. Each of these articles represent a large trade, which in one way and another gives employment to many people. Yet the cost of the drink consumed in this country is more each year than is paid for all the articles I have just named put together. The mineral wealth of Great Britain is notorious. It is one of the most important factors among the natural advantages which have done so much to secure for us our commercial and manufacturing supremacy. The expenditure of our people on liquor in twelve months amounts to one-third more than the value of all the coals, iron, copper, lead, and other metals raised in the country in the same time. Much has been said, and very properly so, too, during the last few years about the dwellings of the poor, but very few persons realize that very little more than half the nation's drink bill would pay the rents of all the dwelling-houses in the country. Agriculture is depressed, and farmers are in distress. Appeals for reductions of rent have been general, and most landlords have found it necessary to either to make an abatement, or to return a considerable percentage of what they had previously been accustomed to receive. Less than half a year's drinking costs as much as all the farmers in the kingdom are called to pay for their farms; or, to put it in another way, if the money spent in liquor were devoted

to paying rents, every householder and every farmer might live rent free.

(To be Continued.)

POOR MAN'S PLUM PUDDING.—One cup of beef suet, shred fine, one cup raisins, seeded, one cup of currants, washed thoroughly, one cup molasses, one cup sweet milk, one teaspoonful baking soda, a good pinch of salt, enough flour to make a medium stiff batter, about two and a half cups; steam in a mould two and a half hours.

A religion which can't stand before de sight of a circus purseshun or de sound of a fiddle am not worf luggin' aroun' de kentry.

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